

the Father Gabriel Richard High School sports banquet. He was being honored for coach of the year in both girls track and girls cross-country. He never made it but is remembered by the students and faculty at the school as a mentor, teacher, and friend.

Richard LaPensee, of Ypsilanti, fought fires for 18 years while serving as an emergency medical technician. He immediately jumped at the chance to work as a University of Michigan life flight medical technician 3 years ago. On Monday morning, Richard had just finished a 24-hour firefighter shift before embarking on the transplant flight.

Dr. David Ashburn, 35, of Dexter, was a cardiac surgery resident at the University of Michigan. He was looking to begin his pediatric cardiac surgery fellowship in July. Dr. Ashburn was a dedicated family man who enjoyed turkey hunting in the wilderness of Michigan.

Dr. Martinus Spoor, 37, of Ann Arbor, was a regular when it came to the air transplant business, making roughly 10 flights a year. Dr. Spoor was known by his friends and family as a "gentle and kind human being" and taught heart valve repair techniques to medical students.

Dennis Hoyes, 65, of Blackman Township, was a man who loved to fly. A retired small business owner, Dennis would often spend his days at the Jackson County Airport and worked as an adjunct flight instructor for Jackson Community College's aviation program. Dennis would always give a free lesson to anyone who asked.

Bill Serra, 59, of Macomb Township, had over 12,000 hours of flight time from small planes to 747s. During the Persian Gulf war, Bill worked as a civilian pilot delivering material and ammunition to U.S. forces. The Air Force honored Bill in 1993 for his dedicated service.

Our State of Michigan lost real heroes Monday—heroes who gave back to their communities without fanfare or personal gain, heroes who did their dangerous work out of passion, dedication, and a desire to make the world a better place.

Unfortunately, we often take these heroes for granted, forgetting that their dedication to service comes at life-threatening risk.

The stories of these six men serve as a proud reminder that all of us can give back, that all of us can contribute, and that there are heroes all around us in our communities, our families, and our States. Michigan can never express how proud we are of these individuals' service, and the Michigan family joins the Chenaults, the LaPensees, the Ashburns, the Spoors, the Hoyes, and the Serras in mourning the passing of these brave men.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

2007 WE THE PEOPLE NATIONAL FINALS

• Mr. DODD. Madam President, this April, more than 1,200 students from across the country visited Washington, DC, to take part in the national finals of We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution, an educational program developed to educate young people about the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education by act of Congress.

I am proud to announce that a class from Trumbull High School of Trumbull, CT, received an Honorable Mention Award at this prestigious national event. Seven Honorable Mention Awards were presented to schools placing 4th through 10th on the final day of competition. These outstanding students, through their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to our Nation's Capitol and compete at the national level.

While in Washington, the students participated in a 3-day academic competition that simulates a congressional hearing in which they "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.

I am also pleased to note that the We the People curriculum is aligned with the National Standards for Civics and Government and correlates with the social studies standards of many states.

The names of these outstanding students from Trumbull High School are: Alexa Alexander, Akanksha Bajaj, Rebecca Chadwick, Chelsea Clyde, Ashley Cohen, Shane Connolly, Victoria Costello, Mulan Cui, Megan Denstedt, Jackson Dolan, Adam Drenkard, Mike Finik, George Fitzpatrick, Casey Gardiner, Blake Ludwig, Alex Mosello, Elisa Odoardi, Alison Ornitz, Matt Pankracij, Mary Santella, Jaclyn Siegel, Matt Socha, Edward Tillstrand, and Stephen Wagner.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Mike Margonis, who is responsible for preparing these young constitutional experts for the national finals. Also worthy of special recognition are Jim Schmidt and Julie Jaquish, the State coordinators, and Lorna Gallagher, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in my state.

I congratulate these students on their exceptional achievement at the We the People national finals.●

TRIBUTE TO PEGGY WHITWORTH

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today I would like to express my deep appre-

ciation to Peggy Whitworth, executive director of Iowa's only national trust property, Brucemore. Brucemore, located in Cedar Rapids, IA, is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and Peggy has been Brucemore's only executive director during that quarter century. During this time, her leadership, creativity, and "can-do" attitude have made Brucemore a model nonprofit organization and an eastern Iowa landmark.

This past December, Peggy was awarded the National Trust President's Award for her years of dedicated service to Brucemore, as well as for her advocacy of preservation. I would like to add my voice to those honoring Peggy and her work. She is respected not just in Iowa but across the country as a champion for preservation and the promotion of cultural attractions. Her labors on behalf of historical preservation have helped inspire people in other communities to preserve and honor the important architectural, cultural and historic contributions from our past.

Twenty five years ago, when Brucemore was bequeathed to the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the idea was to use the mansion for community meetings and activities. That limited perspective did not last long. Under Peggy's leadership, Brucemore has come to offer a full schedule of events, including Bluesmore, Classics at Brucemore, Cabaret in the Courtyard, as well as tours of the mansion which draw nearly 30,000 people annually.

Peggy has also been active in promoting culture and tourism attractions as an economic development tool. In addition to her work at Brucemore, Peggy has served five terms on the Iowa State Historical Society board, including chairing the board. She serves on the Terrace Hill Foundation. And she was recently appointed to the Board of Pharmacy Examiners by Iowa Governor Chet Culver.

Peggy Whitworth is planning to retire later this year. Her leadership and vision will be greatly missed. And we are deeply grateful for her many contributions to the cultural richness of Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT HAROLD GEORGE DANLEY

• Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, today I wish to recognize a man who died in the service of his country 64 years ago but never received the proper recognition he was due.

Harold George Danley was one of four brothers from Lincoln, NE, who joined the armed services during World War II. Three of those brothers returned home to their families; Sergeant Danley, who was 22 years old, did not.

Sergeant Danley was serving in the 18th Army/Air Force Anti-Submarine Squadron aboard a B-24D Bomber, which crashed while patrolling the east coast of the United States somewhere